

DRAFT**Secondhand Smoke**

Secondhand smoke, also known as environmental tobacco smoke or ETS, is a combination of the smoke coming from the lit end of a cigarette plus the smoke exhaled by a person smoking.

We think that [based on an analogy with active smoking] secondhand smoke from cigarettes [could] [can] may cause disease [strongly linked to active smoking] such as lung cancer in non-smoking adults [if they have been exposed long and to high levels of secondhand smoke]. It causes eye, throat and nasal irritation and exacerbates asthma in some sensitive non-smoking adults. There is sufficient evidence that exposure of children to secondhand smoke causes exacerbation of asthma and middle ear infection (otitis media). It is probable that secondhand smoke causes respiratory symptoms such as cough and wheeze, lung function deficits, lower respiratory illness and childhood infections in children exposed to secondhand smoke.

Public health officials have also concluded and communicated about the health risks of secondhand smoke for non-smoking adults and children:

- Link 1
- Link 2
- Link 3 etc.

The public should be aware of these health consequences of secondhand smoke in deciding whether to be in places where secondhand smoke is present, or if they are smokers, when and where to smoke around others. Particular care should be exercised where children are concerned, and adults should avoid smoking around them.

Philip Morris USA believes that potential health consequences of secondhand smoke [the evidence linking secondhand smoke exposure to asthma exacerbation and the possibility that it could cause other diseases in nonsmoking adults and in children] warrant measures that regulate smoking in public places. We also believe that where smoking is permitted, the government should require the posting of warning notices that communicate public health officials' conclusions that secondhand smoke causes disease in non-smokers.

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PM3001181005